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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0337
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBL/AMCONSUL BELFAST PRIORITY 1117

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 000511

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/30/2019
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [IAEA](#) [KNNP](#) [SYR](#) [IR](#) [EI](#)
SUBJECT: IRELAND ON IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM, IAEA'S SYRIA
REPORT

REF: A. STATE 120288
[1](#)B. STATE 119161

Classified By: Political Officer Todd Huizinga. Reasons 1.4(b/d).

(C) On November 25, Poloff discussed reftel points with Derek Hannon, Deputy Director for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA). On Iran's nuclear program and next steps (ref A), Hannon said that Ireland would prefer a UNSC resolution before the EU imposes future sanctions, but is open to supporting EU sanctions even without UNSC approval. On the IAEA report on Syria (ref B), Hannon said Ireland shares USG concern, but wants the IAEA to "remain in the lead" for the time being. Hannon claimed that the information in the latest IAEA report on Al Kibar is not new, while agreeing that the report's findings on the Miniature Neutron Source Reactor raises new and serious questions. Hannon added that Ireland supports "the IAEA's call for Israel and others who have information" regarding Syria's nuclear activities to help with the IAEA's investigation.
FAUCHER